

GLOSSARY

Alcohol Involved Collision

Any motor vehicle traffic collision where a driver, pedestrian, or bicyclist had been drinking.

At Fault

The involved party in a motor vehicle traffic collision considered by the officer to be most at fault.

Bicycle Involved

A traffic collision involving at least one bicycle in a solo collision, as well as those involved with a parked vehicle or moving motor vehicle, pedestrian, or with another bicycle.

Bicyclist

In this report, the term bicyclist will be used to denote bicyclist victims or bicyclist parties. Bicyclist victims include the driver (rider) and/or passenger of any device propelled exclusively by human power through a belt, chain or gears, and having two or more wheels. A bicyclist party is comprised of only a driver of the vehicle described above.

Collision

For the purposes of this report, the terms “collision” and “motor vehicle traffic collision” have the same definition. See “motor vehicle traffic collision.”

Complaint of Pain

Injuries claimed but not evident (includes limping claimed to have been caused by the collision).

County Roadways

Any roadway in the unincorporated area of a county that is not an Interstate, U. S., or State Route.

Driver

For the purpose of this report, the terms “driver” and “motor vehicle driver” have the same definition. See “motor vehicle driver.”

DUI/PCF

Driving Under the Influence of alcohol and/or drugs (DUI) which in the officer’s opinion best describes the Primary Collision Factor (PCF) or main cause of the collision.

Prior to 2002, when the Sobriety-Drug/Physical field on the traffic collision report indicated B-HBD-Under Influence or E-Under Drug Influence for the party at fault and the officer indicated a PCF violation other than DUI, the SWITRS program would change the PCF to DUI. Effective with 2002 re-engineering of SWITRS, the PCF violation is no longer changed from the PCF violation indicated by the officer.

Fatal Collision

A motor vehicle traffic collision resulting in the death of one or more persons within 30 days of the collision.

Fetus

The death of a fetus of a pregnant female involved in a traffic collision is a fatal injury if the coroner attributes the death to the collision.

Prior to 2002, fetus was included in the 60 and over age group, 65 and over age group, or 85 and over age group.

Had Been Drinking

The description of the condition of a driver, pedestrian, or bicyclist involved in a collision with regard to alcohol. The party can be described as "Had Been Drinking-under influence, Had Been Drinking-not under influence, or Had Been Drinking-impairment unknown."

In 1992, California Legislation made it unlawful for an operator of a commercial vehicle to drive when his/her blood alcohol level is .04 or greater.

In 1995, California Legislation made it unlawful for motor vehicle drivers under the age of 21 to drive with a blood alcohol level of .05 or greater.

HBD-Impairment Unknown

Had Been Drinking (HBD) but it is impossible to determine the extent of impairment. For example, the involved party was unconscious when removed from the collision scene, or was fatally injured in the collision.

HBD-Not Under Influence

The investigating officer has determined that the involved party Had Been Drinking (HBD) and was not under the influence.

HBD-Under Influence

The investigating officer has determined that the involved party Had Been Drinking (HBD) and was under the influence.

NOTE: In California, presumptive evidence indicates that a party is under the influence when his/her blood alcohol level is .08 or greater. However, someone with a blood alcohol level less than .08 can also be determined under the influence by the reporting officer. Prior to 1990, the alcohol level necessary for presumed under the influence was .10 or greater.

Hit-and-Run

The investigating officer has determined that the facts and evidence indicate either a felony or misdemeanor hit-and-run was committed. Hit-and-run is the failure of a driver involved in a collision to stop and provide identification to the other involved parties or property owner or to law enforcement officials. When an injury or death to another party is involved, the hit-and-run becomes a felony.

Incorporated

A community which has obtained a charter and established itself as a corporation. Usually referred to as a city and has its own police, fire, and other governmental agencies.

Injured

A person sustaining injuries as the result of a motor vehicle traffic collision. This would include victims with the extent of injury classified as severe wound, other visible injuries, or complaint of pain. Victims killed are not included as injured.

Injury Collision

A motor vehicle traffic collision resulting in injury to one or more persons. Injury would include severe wound, other visible injuries, or complaint of pain. A fatal collision is not included in injury collision.

Killed

A person who dies, as a result of a motor vehicle collision, within 30 days of the collision.

Licensed Motorcycle Drivers

Any person holding a valid California driver license with a Class 4 or M endorsement, or any person holding a valid Class 4 or M only driver license. Class 4 or M includes any two-wheeled motorcycle or any two-wheel motor-driven cycle. Mopeds do not require Class 4 or M driver license.

Moped

A moped or motorized bicycle is any two-wheeled or three-wheeled device having fully operative pedals for propulsion by human power, or having no pedals if powered solely by electrical energy, and an automatic transmission and a motor which produces less than two gross brake horsepower and is capable of propelling the device at a maximum speed of not more than 30 miles per hour on level ground.

Motor Vehicle

A mechanically or electrically powered device not operated on rails, upon which or by which any person or property may be transported or drawn upon a roadway is a motor vehicle. This would include motorized bicycles (mopeds).

Motor Vehicle Driver

A person who drives or is in actual control of a motor vehicle. This would include the rider of a moped or motorcycle.

Motor Vehicle Registration

Number of automobiles, trucks, and motorcycles registered with the California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV). The figure used is DMV fee paid motorized vehicles and does not include exempt vehicles or trailers.

Motor Vehicle Traffic Collision

An unintended event that causes death, injury, or property damage involving a motor vehicle in transport (in motion or in readiness for motion) on a roadway (a way or place) any part of which is open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel.

Motorcycle Involved

A motor vehicle traffic collision involving at least one motorcycle (includes collisions involving mopeds).

Motorcycle Registration

The number of two-wheeled motorcycles and two-wheeled motor-driven cycles registered with the California DMV.

To view specification requirements for these registered vehicles, please see definitions (Mopeds, Motorcyclists) for clarification.

Motorcyclist

In this report, the term motorcyclist will be used to denote motorcyclist victims or motorcyclist parties. Motorcyclist victims include the driver (rider) and/or passenger of any motor vehicle, other than a tractor, having a seat or saddle for the use of the rider, and designed to travel on not more than three wheels in contact with the ground and weighing less than 1,500 pounds. Four wheels may be in contact with the ground when two of the wheels are a functional part of a sidecar. Motorcyclist victims also include the rider or passenger of a moped. A motorcyclist party is comprised of only the driver of the vehicle described above.

Other Visible Injuries

Injury other than fatal or severe which is evident to any person at the collision scene.

Party

A participant in a motor vehicle traffic collision. A party involved in a collision may be categorized as a driver, pedestrian, parked vehicle, bicyclist, or other.

Passenger

A passenger is any occupant of a vehicle other than its driver. Includes passengers on bicycles, mopeds, and motorcycles.

Pedestrian

Any person not in or upon a vehicle, bicycle, or animal. Includes a person in or operating a pedestrian conveyance; such as a baby carriage, coaster wagon, skateboard, roller skates, skis, sled, non-motorized and motorized wheelchair, and a person in or upon a device moved by pedaling, except a bicycle. Excludes a person boarding or alighting from a conveyance, except a pedestrian conveyance, and a person jumping or falling from a motor vehicle.

Pedestrian Involved

A motor vehicle traffic collision involving a motor vehicle and at least one pedestrian.

Primary Collision Factor

The one element or driving action which, in the officer's opinion, best describes the primary or main cause of the collision.

Prior to 2002, the SWITRS program changed the Primary Collision Factor (PCF) to "Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol and/or Drugs" or "Pedestrian Under the Influence of Alcohol and/or Drugs" if these PCFs were supported by the Sobriety-Drug/Physical field on the traffic collision report as marked by the officer. With the 2002 re-engineering of SWITRS, the PCF is not changed from what the officer has stated; therefore, many categories of PCF are not comparable to prior years, i.e. "Speed."

Property Damage Only Collision

A non-injury motor vehicle traffic collision which results in property damage.

Roadway

A way or place of whatever nature, publicly maintained and open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel.

Safety Equipment

Includes lap belt, shoulder harness, lap/shoulder harness, passive restraint and air bag for vehicle occupants and helmet for motorcyclists and bicyclists.

Severe Wound

Injury which prevents the injured party from walking, driving, or performing activities he/she was normally capable of before the collision.

Truck

A truck with two or more axles, or truck tractor, operated singly or with one or more trailers or semi-trailers (excludes pickups, panel trucks, or vans).

Type of Collision

The category which best describes the general type of collision which was the first event. Head-on, sideswipe, rear end, and broadside are used only if two or more motor vehicles are involved in the first event.

Unincorporated

That portion of a county that is not incorporated; outside city limits.

Unincorporated Roadways

Those roadways outside city limits (excludes all incorporated city roadways; includes county roadways and unincorporated state highways).

Unincorporated State Highways

Those Interstates, U. S., or State Routes located outside incorporated city limits.

Vehicle

For the purpose of this report the terms "vehicle" and "motor vehicle" have the same definition. See "motor vehicle."

Vehicle Occupant

Includes a driver or a passenger in the following vehicle types: passenger car; station wagon; jeep; pickup or panel truck with or without trailer(s); and truck or truck tractor with or without trailer(s).

Victim

Any person killed or injured as the result of a motor vehicle traffic collision.